

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 07322 201745 Z

47

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ADP-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 AID-20 ACDA-19 SR-02 ORM-03

RSR-01 /170 W

----- 007900

R 201505 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2808

USINT CAIRO

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 7322

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF

SUBJ: EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE RE PALESTINIAN STATE

1. EVER SINCE ZAYYAT SPEECH TO SC RE PALESTINE STATE  
AND JUNE 10 AL AHAM ARTICLE REFERRING TO PLO LEADERSHIP  
FOR PROPOSED STATE, THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE SPECULA-  
TION BY OBSERVERS AND PRESS HERE OVER EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE  
AND DEGREE OF SUPPORT IT MIGHT FIND AMONG OTHER ARAB  
COUNTRIES AND PALESTINIANS. WE HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY  
REPORTED ON THIS SINCE INFO WAS TOO VARIED AND NEBULOUS.  
EVEN NOW WE ARE NOT SATISFIED THAT WE HAVE AS CLEAR A  
PICTURE AS WE WOULD LIKE. HOWEVER, SOME COMMENT ON  
PROBABLY VIEWS OF PLO SEEMS CALLED FOR.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 07322 201745 Z

2. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY SEVERAL SOURCES THAT FEDAYEEN LEADERSHIP WAS GENERALLY IN AGREEMENT WITH EGYPTIAN IDEA OF ENDORSING OPENLY THE CREATION OF A PALESTINAIN STATE, ALTHOUGH PLO NOT RPT NOT WILLING TO TAKE ANY FORMAL DECISION OR ANNOUNCE ITS VIEWS ON QUESTION. APPARENT MOTIVATION OF MORE MODERATE OF FEDAYEEN LEADERS, REPORTEDLY INCLUDING EVEN ABU IYAD ( SALAH KHALAF) WAS TO PRESENT IMAGE MORE ACCEPTABLE TO INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ( ESPECIALLY USSR AND USG) AND TO MOST ARAB STATES WHO WORRIED ABOUT IDENTIFICATION OF FEDAYEEN AND PLO WITH BSO- TYPE TERRORISM. AT SAME TIME, THIS WOULD TEND UNDERCUT HUSSEIN PLAN WHICH OPTS FOR PALESTINIAN ENTITY AS PART OF FEDERATION RATHER THAN FULLY INDEPENDENT. HOPEFULLY, THIS WOULD ALSO ATTRACT INCREASED SUPPORT FOR FEDAYEEN LEADERS ON PART OF WEST BANK PALESTINIANS. REPORTEDLY THE EGYPTIAN IDEA WHICH WAS ACCEPTED TACITLY BY FEDAYEEN LEADERS WOULD CALL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF PALESTINIAN STATE IN GEORGRAPHICAL AREA ORIGINALLY SET ASIDE FOR PALESTINIANS IN UNGA RES 181 OF 29 NOV 1947.

3. ON OTHER HAND, WE NOTE PLO' S WEEKLY ORGAN, PALESTINE REVOLUTION, ON JUNE 20 CONTAINS ARTICLE ( REPLYING TO AL AHAM' S JUNE 10 PIECE ON SAME SUBJECT) THAT CRITICIZED EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE AND EMPHASIZED THAT ONLY PLO AS SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE HAS RIGHT TO DEFINE WHAT THEY WANT. MAGAZINE REAFFIRMED FEDAYEEN STAND AS FOLLOWS; ( A) REJECTION OF SC RES 242 " AND ALL SIMILAR RESOLUTIONS"; ( B) PURSUING " ARMED STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATING ENTIRE SOIL OF PALESTINE"; ( C) ESTABLISHMENT OF DEMOCRATIC PALESTINIAN STATE " AFTER LIQUIDATING ZIONIST ESTABLISHMENT MILITARILY, POLITICALLY, CULTURALLY AND ECONOMICALLY". SAID THAT GIVEN THESE AIMS, " THERE REMAINS NO ROOM FOR ANY TALK ABOUT A PALESTINIAN STATE WITHIN SECURE AND RECOGNIZED BORDERS" AND WARNED THAT EGYPTIAN PROPOSAL WOULD IMPLY ( HORRIBLE DICTU) OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF " LEGITIMACY OF ZIONIST PRESENCE ON PALESTINIAN SOIL." WEEKLY THEN WENT ON TO CASTIGATE ARAB REGIMES FOR MAKING EXCESSIVE POLITICAL CONCESSIONS IN PURSUIT OF PEACEFUL ME SETTLEMENT. CONCLUDED THAT EGYPTIAN IDEA OF PALESTINIAN STATE HEADED BY PLO " WOULD CONSTITUTE EVEN GREATER CONCESSION ON PATH OF RETREAT."

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BEIRUT 07322 201745 Z

4. WE NOTE ALSO THAT SIGNS OF EGYPTIAN WAFFLING UNDER FEDAYEEN CRITICISM HAVE ALREADY BEGUN SURFACE IN PRO- CAIRO PRESS HERE. WEEKLY AS SAYYAD, FOR EXAMPLE, TODAY QUOTED HAFEZ ISMAIL TELLING FATAH' S ABU LUTF ( FAROUQ QADDUMI) THAT GOE FEELS " VERY EMBARRASSED" OVER INTERNATIONAL INTEREST GENERATED BY ZAYYAT' S PROPOSAL. SAID GOE HAD

INTENDED PROPOSAL TO HAVE " ONLY ONE DIMENSION, NAMELY, LEGAL DIMENSION." HAFEZ ALSO ALLEGEDLY ASSURED QADDUMI THAT THERE WAS NO ACTUAL PLAN FOR PALESTINIAN STATE, NOR WAS THERE ANY ARAB OR INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE TOWARD THAT END. HE ADMITTED, MOREOVER, THAT FEDAYEEN HAD NOT BEEN CONSULTED ON THE MATTER.

5. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO IDEA WHERE TRUTH MAY LIE IN VARIOUS CONFLICTING REPORTS AND STORIES MENTIONED ABOVE. HOWEVER, RECALLING FEDAYEEN REJECTION AND FUROR THAT GREETED SADAT' S SUGGESTION RE FORMATION OF PALESTINIAN GOVT IN EXILE IN EARLY 1972, WE THINK IT QUITE LIKELY THAT FEDAYEEN ESTABLISHMENT IS NO MORE PREPARED ENDORSE PUBLICLY GOE' S LATEST INITIATIVE THAN IT WAS THEN. OFFICIAL PLO LINE ENUNCIATED BY PALESTINE REVOLUTION JUNE 20 IS VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL WITH THAT USED IN 1972. HOWEVER, PRIVATE, TACIT APPROVAL OF IDEA BY MANY FEDAYEEN LEADERS STRIKES US AS POSSIBILITY DESPITE PUBLIC COOLNESS. AT SAME TIME, WE ARE INTRIGUED BY WHAT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN SUDDEN BURST OF ENTHUSIASM SHOWN BY EGYPTIANS, BOURGUIBA, ETC. FOR UNGA' S 1947 RES IN PALESTINIAN CONTEXT. THIS TENDS GIVE SOME CREDENCE TO IDEA THAT SEVERAL ARAB STATES HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT TO BACK IDEA OF INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE WITH TACIT PLO APPROVAL.  
HOUGHTON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JUN 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973BEIRUT07322  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BEIRUT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730623/aaaajfsu.tel  
**Line Count:** 145  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 OCT 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22-Oct-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <04-Jan-2002 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980213  
**Subject:** EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE RE PALESTINIAN STATE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, XF  
**To:** AMMAN  
CAIRO  
JERUSALEM  
JIDDA  
KUWAIT  
NEA  
SECSTATE WASHDC

TEL AVIV  
TRIPOLI

**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005